

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's consideration of the Application. In order to advance prosecution of this Application, Applicants have responded to each notation by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's recognition of the allowable subject matter of Claims 9 and 18 and the allowance of Claim 20.

Section 103(a) Rejection

The Examiner rejects under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a): Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10-13, 16-17, and 19 over U.S. Patent No. 6,757,344 of Carleton ("*Carleton*"), U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2003/0063583 of Padovani et al. ("*Padovani*"), and U.S. Patent No. 7,139,320 of Singh et al. ("*Singh*"); Claims 5 and 14 over *Carleton*, *Padovani*, *Singh*, and U.S. Patent No. 6,218,896 of Becker et al. ("*Becker*"); and Claims 6 and 15 over *Carleton*, *Padovani*, *Singh*, and U.S. Patent No. 6,499,008 of Miet ("*Miet*"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combinations of references proposed by the Examiner fail to disclose, teach, or suggest elements specifically recited in Applicants' claims. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 9. Accordingly, independent Claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103. For analogous reasons, independent Claims 10 and 19 and their respective dependent claims are allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all the pending claims.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this case in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact Keiko Ichiye, the Attorney for Applicants, at the Examiner's convenience at (214) 953-6494.

Although Applicants believe no fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicants



Keiko Ichiye
Reg. No. 45,460

Correspondence Address:

Baker Botts L.L.P.
2001 Ross Avenue, Suite 600
Dallas, Texas 75201-2980
(214) 953-6494
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Customer Number: 45507